

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAGHDA 00637 160912Z

17

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 H-02 SP-02 L-03 PRS-01 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 EUR-12 /053 W
----- 052941

R 140840Z JUN 75

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2091

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 0637

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, IZ

SUBJECT: STATUS OF IRAQI JEWS

REF: BAGHDAD 437 (NOTAL)

1. DUTCH CHARGE MEIHEUSEN HAD OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN SOMETHING OF CURRENT STATUS OF BAGHDAD'S REMAINING JEWISH COMMUNITY EARLIER THIS MONTH WHEN JEWISH FAMILY APPLIED FOR VISAS TO NETHERLANDS. HEAD OF FAMILY TOLD MEIHEUSEN THAT THERE ARE ABOUT 350 JEWS LEFT IN COMMUNITY. THEIR SITUATION IS ECONOMICALLY DIFFICULT SINCE MOST ARE ENGAGED IN PRIVATE SECTOR COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY WHICH INCREASINGLY DOMINATED BY STATE ORGANIZATIONS. HE DID NOT COMPLAIN OF ANY OTHER KIND OF DISCRIMINATION OR OPPRESSION. THERE ARE STILL TWO SYNAGOGUES OPEN BUT ATTENDANCE IS SPARSE. FOLLOWING RECENT DEPARTURE OF HEAD OF COMMUNITY (REFTEL), A NEW ACTING HEAD TOOK OVER AND IS TRYING TO PROVIDE SOME LEADERSHIP. APPLICANT ALSO CLAIMED JEWS WERE FREE TO LEAVE, ALTHOUGH HE HIMSELF HAD OBTAINED PASSPORT FOR VISIT ABROAD NOT IMMIGRATION. MEIHEUSEN BELIEVES ON BASIS VISAS APPLICANTS OVER PAST YEAR, THAT REMAINING JEWS NOT INTERESTED IN GOING TO ISRAEL BUT TO U.S. OR EUROPE.

2. COMMENT: WHILE ABOVE REPRESENTS RELATIVELY SANGUINE PICTURE, SHOULD BE BORNE IN MIND THAT APPLICANT PROBABLY
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DID NOT WISH TO SPEAK COMPLETELY FRANKLY.

LOWRIE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: JEWS, ARRESTS, ANTISEMITISM
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BAGHDA00637
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750208-0955
From: BAGHDAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750648/aaaabrnl.tel
Line Count: 62
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BAGHDAD 437
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 AUG 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <26 NOV 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STATUS OF IRAQI JEWS
TAGS: PINT, IZ
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006